

Message Text

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R 290830Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7345

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TWON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 0283

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, PINS, AO, TZ, PINT

SUBJ: AGOSTINHO NETO RETURNS TO DAR; DENOUNCES CHIPENDA

REF: LUANDA 100

1. SUMMARY: MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO RETURNED DAR ES SALAAM JANUARY 25, AND DENOUNCED CHIPENDA AS LEADER OF BANDITS BACKED BY SOME UNNAMED AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND OUTSIDE FORCES. NETO THEN LEFT JANUARY 28 FOR ANGOLA AFTER 14 YEARS EXILE. NETO'S ATTACK ON CHIPENDA HAS SPARKED SHARP ANTI-CHIPENDA CAMPAIGN IN TANZANIAN PRESS. END SUMMARY

2. MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO ARRIVED DAR ES SALAAM JANUARY 25, FROM PORTUGAL AND ALGERIA. SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT AIRPORT, HE ACCUSED UNSPECIFIED AFRICAN COUNTRIES OF
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SUPPLYING ARMS TO CHIPENDA FACTION OF MPLA, AND ALLOWING THEIR

TERRITORIES TO BE USED AS TRANSIT CAMP FOR ARMS COMING TO CHIPENDA FROM OUTSIDE AFRICA. HE REITERATED THAT "CABINDA IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF ANGOLA AND THUS THERE CAN BE NO TALK OF SECESSION," AND CLAIMED THAT "FRENCH CAPITALISTS" WERE TRYING TO BEFRIEND CABINDAN SEPARATISTS IN IMPERIALIST PLOT TO TAKE CONTROL OF ENCLAVE. HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT RETURNING TO ANGOLA AFTER OVER 14 YEARS EXILE, " TO WORK AMONG OUR PEOPLE AND ASSIST IN DECISION MAKING," BECAUSE "OPERATING FROM OUTSIDE HAS NOT BEEN VERY USEFUL AS WE HAVE ON MANY OCCASIONS BEEN WRONGLY INFLUENCED BY OUR FRIENDS." FINALLY, HE NOTED THAT ONLY THE THREE RECOGNIZED ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

3. NETO LEST DAR TO RETURN TO ANGOLA JANUARY 28.

4. TANZANIAN PRESS HAS UNLEASHED CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHIPENDA, BRANDING HIM IN NEWS STORIES AS TRAITOR, LEADER OF BANDITS, AND IMPERIALIST AGENT. EDITORIALS IN BOTH LOCAL PAPERS JANUARY 28 EXPANDED ON THIS THEME. DAILY NEWS SAID CHIPENDA'S ATTACKS ON OFFICIAL MPLA INVOLVED FACTORS "FAR MORE SINISTER" THAN MERE HUNGER FOR POWER, BECAUSE PEOPLE HE ATTACKED ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR "SOCIALIST, ANTI-IMPERIALIST POLITICAL LINE." UNTIL NOW, EDITORIAL SAID, CONNECTION BETWEEN CHIPENDA AND IMPERIALVSM COULD OBLY BE SURMISED, BUT LAST WEEKEND "IT WAS FIRMLY ESTABLISHED. IMPERIALISM IS THE SOURCE OF CHIPENDA'S ARMS SUPPLIES, PERHAPS EVEN THE SOURCE OF SOME OF HIS SOLDIERS." SWAHILI-LANGUAGE UHURU CALLED CHIPENDA THE "GREAT BETRAYER OF ANGOLAN PEOPLE," AND ANOTHER TSHOMBER WHO WILL BE "EXTERMINATED AS THE FIRST TSHOMBE WAS EXTERMINATED."
CARTER

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